

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the application. Claims 1-11, 14, 32, 38, and 56 are canceled herewith. Claims 1-13, 22, 31, 32, 37, 46, 55 and 56 are rejected. Claims 14-21, 23-30, 33-36, 38-45, 47-54, and 57-60 are objected to. Claims 12, 13, 15-18, 20, 21, 37, 39-42, 44, and 45 are herein amended. Claims 11, 14, 32, 38 and 56 are herein cancelled. Claim 61 and 62 have been added. Applicants request reconsideration in light of the amendments and following remarks.

Summary of Rejections and Objections

Claims 1-13, 22, 31-32, 37, 46, and 55-56 are rejected as follows:

- Claims 1-13, 22, 31-32, 37, 46, and 55-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by the admitted prior art in Figures 3A-3E, and in pages 11-14 of the instant application.
- Claims 14-21, 23-30, 33-36, 38-45, 47-54, and 57-60 are objected to as follows:
- Claims 14-21, 23-30, 33-36, 38-45, 47-54, and 57-60 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Amendments

Applicants are herein amending claims 12 and 37 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 14 and 38, respectively, canceling claims 14 and 38, and amending the claim dependency of claims 15-18, 20, 21, 39-42, 44 and 45. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments of claims 12, 15-18, 20, 21, 37, 39-42, 44 and 45.

Claim Objections

Claims 14-21, 23-30, 33-36, 38-45, 47-54, and 57-60 are objected to as being dependent from a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because of the amendment of claim 12 to include the limitations of claim 14 and because of the amendment

of claim 37 to include the limitations of claim 38, claim 12 and its dependent claims and claim 37 and its dependent claims should be deemed allowable. Therefore, Applicants request the withdrawal of the objections to claims 14-21, 23-30, 33-36, 38-45, 47-54, and 57-60.

Claim Additions

Claims 61 and 62 have been added. Support can be found in Figure 5 and the supporting text.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-13, 22, 31-32, 37, 46, and 55-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by the admitted prior art in Figures 3A-3E, and in pages 11-14 of the instant application. Applicants traverse the rejection and request reconsideration, especially in light of the amended claims.

Applicants reserve the right to argue in a later filed claim set that the figures in question are not Admitted Prior Art and to pursue claims of a scope similar to that previously presented are patentable. However, Applicants have canceled claims 1-11 and amended independent claims 12 and 37 to incorporate allowable subject matter. Applicants have also submitted herewith a new set of claims that do not read on the cited figures thereby rendering moot, for the present, the issue as to whether the figures are or are not prior art.

In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicant submits that claims 22, 31-32, 37, 46, and 55-56 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) patentably define over any alleged admitted prior art in the instant application.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12, 13, 15-31, 33-37, 39-55, and 57-60 as amended, and claims 61-62 as newly presented are in condition for allowance and entry of the present amendment and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at the number provided to facilitate prosecution of the application.

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